Indiana Crop & Weather Report

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INDIANA AGRICULTURAL STATISTICS
U.S. DEPARTMENT OF AGRICULTURE
PURDUE UNIVERSITY
1148 AGAD BLDG, ROOM 223
WEST LAFAYETTE IN 47907-1148
Phone (765)494-8371
Phone (800)363-0469
FAX (765)494-4315
FAX (800)363-0475

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CROP REPORT FOR WEEK ENDING OCTOBER 7

AGRICULTURAL SUMMARY

Corn and soybean harvest was in full swing around the state last week, according to the Indiana Agricultural Statistics Service. Corn harvest is 4 days ahead of average and soybean harvest is 1 day ahead of average. Rain late in the week halted field activities in most areas of the state. Seeding winter wheat continued. Fall tillage also made good progress last week. Frost occurred in most areas of the state.

FIELD CROPS REPORT

There were 6.0 **days suitable for fieldwork**. Ninety-four percent of the corn acreage is **mature** compared with 97 percent last year and 91 percent for the average. Thirty-one percent of the corn acreage is **harvested**, on par with a year earlier, but ahead of the 24 percent for the 5-year average. By region, 16 percent of the corn acreage is harvested in the north, 29 percent in the central region and 65 percent in the south. **Moisture** content of harvested corn is averaging 20 percent.

Ninety-eight percent of the soybean acreage is **shedding leaves** compared with 99 percent last year and 95 percent for the average. Eighty-seven percent of the soybean acreage is **mature** compared with 88 percent last year and 82 percent for the average. Forty-four percent of the soybean acreage is **harvested** compared with 41 percent last year and 41 percent for the average. By region, 33 percent of the soybean acreage is harvested in the north, 53 percent in the central region and 45 percent in the south. **Moisture** content of harvested soybeans is averaging 12.5 percent.

Twenty-six percent of the **winter wheat** acreage is seeded compared with 25 percent last year and 27 percent for the average. Four percent of the winter wheat acreage is **emerged** compared with 3 percent last year and 6 percent for the average.

LIVESTOCK, PASTURE AND RANGE REPORT

Pasture condition is rated 5 percent excellent, 40 percent good, 36 percent fair, 14 percent poor and 5 percent very poor. Livestock remain in mostly good condition.

CROP PROGRESS TABLE

Crop	This Week	Last Week	Last Year	5-Year Avg
	Percent			
Corn Mature	94	90	97	91
Corn Harvested	31	21	31	24
Soybeans Shedding Lv	98	91	99	95
Soybeans Mature	87	70	88	82
Soybeans Harvested	44	18	41	41
Winter Wheat Seeded	26	10	25	27
Winter Wheat Emerged	4	1	3	6

CROP CONDITION TABLE

Crop	Very Poor	Poor	Fair	Good	Excel-lent
			Percent		
Corn	1	4	17	55	23
Soybeans	1	5	19	54	21
Pasture	5	14	36	40	5

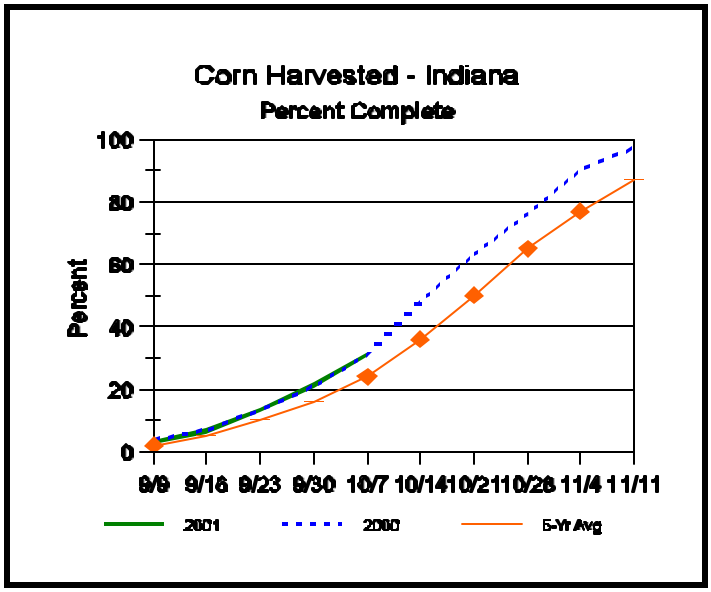
SOIL MOISTURE & DAYS SUITABLE FOR FIELDWORK TABLE

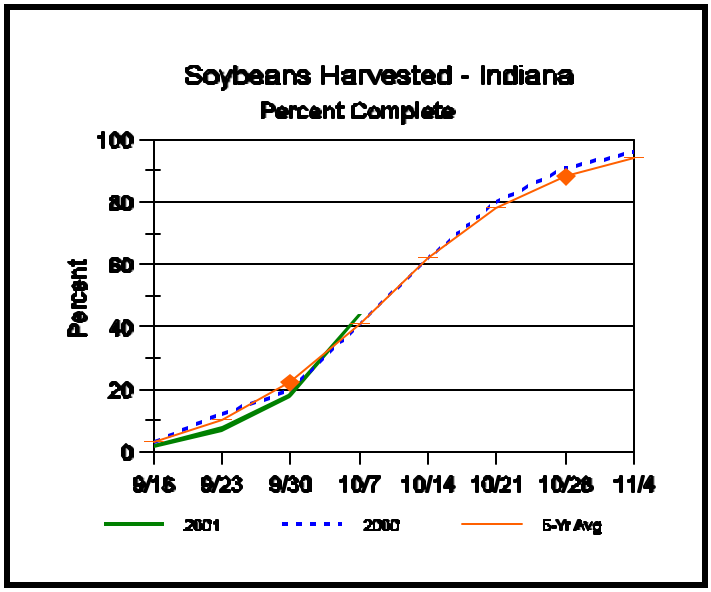
	This Week	Last Week	Last Year
		Percent	
Topsoil			
Very Short	2	2	0
Short	15	12	2
Adequate	74	81	55
Surplus	9	5	43
Subsoil			
Very Short	7	6	3
Short	24	24	12
Adequate	66	65	68
Surplus	3	5	17
Days Suitable	6.0	5.8	4.3

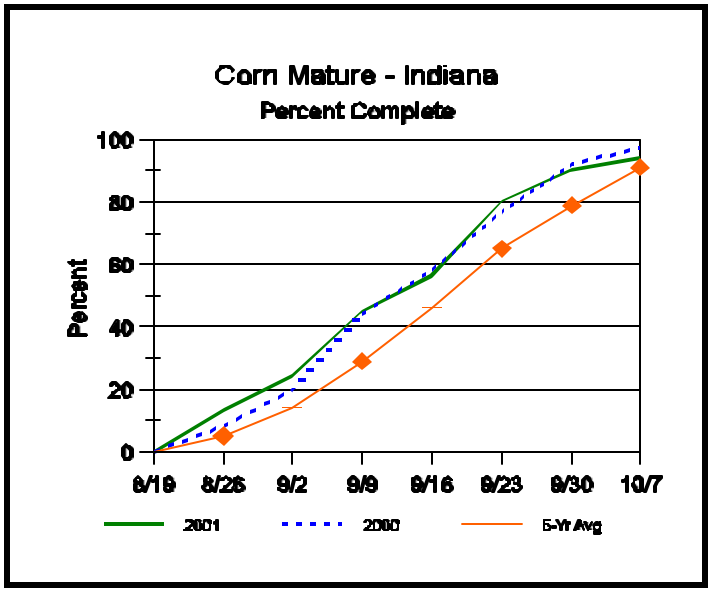
CONTACT INFORMATION

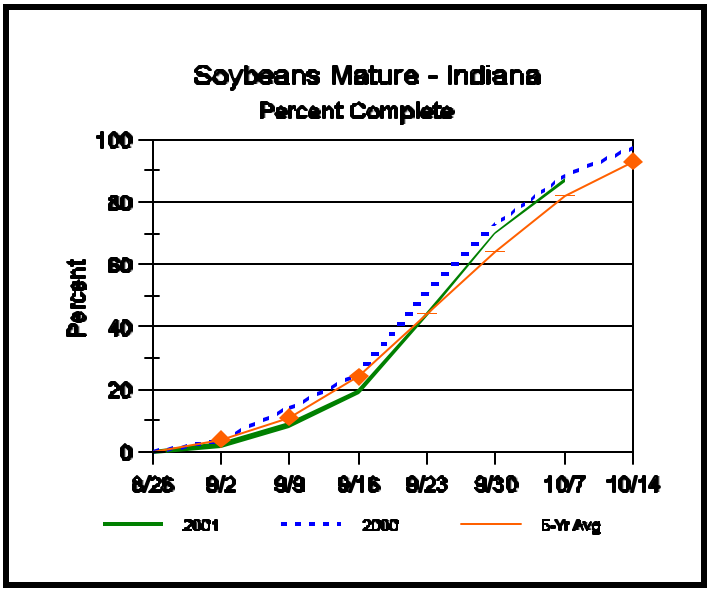
--Ralph W. Gann, State Statistician
--Bud Bever, Agricultural Statistician
E-Mail Address: nass-in@nass.usda.gov
http://www.nass.usda.gov/in/index.htm

Crop Progress









Other Agricultural Comments And News

Drying And Storage Critical For Grain Quality

There are many factors that come into play when considering production of a specialty grain. Contract histories and premiums, cost of production, yield risk and marketing alternatives all influence the decision. But this is the time of year to consider another factor--how that grain must be conditioned and stored.

"Drying and storage are very important considerations because if you don't do it right you can quickly lose your premium," says Dirk Maier, Extension ag engineer at Purdue University. "The food corn processors and millers accept stress cracks within about the 10% to 30% range. Beyond that you get rejected. So compare that requirement with #2 yellow corn, which typically has 70% to 100% of the kernels with stress cracks due to high-speed drying and high heat."

The demands, he says, only begin with proper drying. Different varieties must be segregated and often they must be stored well into summer, when heat brings on the threat of insect problems. "Segregation is a real issue if a company wants varieties X, Y and Z stored separately," he says. "If you blend, you get rejected. Other times you might be able to store varieties together if the buyer only cares about a single trait like high protein. In that

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Weather Information Table

Week ending Sunday October 7, 2001

Station	Past Week Weather Summary Data							Accumulation				
								April 1, 2001 thru October 7, 2001				
	Air Temperature				Precip.		Avg 4 in Soil	Precipitation		GDD Base 50°F		
	Hi	Lo	Avg	DFN	Total	Days	Temp	Total	DFN	Days	Total	DFN
Northwest (1)												
Valparaiso_Ag	80	31	57	-2	2.37	3		25.22	+0.38	90	3062	+233
Wanatah	83	21	54	-4	1.80	2	61	26.46	+2.51	86	2784	+88
Wheatfield	84	29	56	-2	1.81	2		22.66	-0.52	78	3030	+277
Winamac	83	28	56	-2	1.56	2	60	25.74	+2.71	81	3018	+181
North Central(2)												
Logansport	82	29	56	-2	1.34	2		30.49	+8.15	78	3064	+128
Plymouth	82	28	55	-3	1.78	2		24.50	+0.84	82	2869	-117
South_Bend	82	33	57	-1	1.79	3		24.57	+1.59	78	3048	+250
Young_America	83	28	57	-2	1.17	2		27.19	+4.85	71	3110	+174
Northeast (3)												
Bluffton	80	30	57	-2	1.43	2	56	24.07	+2.02	80	3084	+68
Fort_Wayne	80	29	57	-2	1.37	2		27.09	+6.63	78	3053	+117
West Central (4)												
Crawfordsville	82	26	56	-4	1.35	2	60	23.64	-0.26	73	3028	-117
Perrysville	83	32	58	-2	1.11	2	65	20.43	-3.74	66	3267	+183
Terre_Haute_Ag	85	30	58	-2	1.47	2	61	28.49	+4.09	67	3506	+213
W_Lafayette_6NW	84	27	58	+0	1.23	2	63	20.73	-2.01	68	3211	+287
Central (5)												
Castleton	80	37	58	-2	1.26	1		29.27	+6.04	71	3343	+85
Greenfield	81	31	61	+2	0.97	1		31.66	+6.80	76	3604	+465
Greensburg	80	31	61	+3	0.59	1		28.71	+4.52	81	3471	+413
Indianapolis_AP	80	30	58	-2	0.92	1		26.84	+4.08	63	3539	+276
Indianapolis_SE	81	30	58	-3	1.15	2		26.64	+3.41	73	3222	-36
Tipton_Ag	82	29	56	-1	1.30	1	54	22.80	-0.39	64	2962	+130
East Central (6)												
Farmland	80	27	57	+0	1.44	1	57	28.66	+6.19	78	3003	+239
New_Castle	78	28	56	-2	1.07	1		32.74	+8.94	74	2726	-107
Southwest (7)												
Dubois_Ag	81	30	60	-1	0.71	1	60	24.60	-1.60	66	3707	+373
Evansville	82	34	61	-2	0.71	1		24.31	+1.30	68	4010	+225
Freelandville	81	35	60	+0	0.48	1		22.57	-1.39	52	3676	+273
Shoals	81	31	59	-2	0.73	1		26.20	+0.35	64	3495	+195
Vincennes_5NE	85	31	61	+2	0.53	1	63	19.96	-4.00	53	3857	+454
South Central(8)												
Bloomington	80	33	59	-3	0.81	2		25.36	+0.76	69	3483	+136
Tell_City	81	37	62	+0	2.06	1		23.25	-3.03	50	3951	+288
Southeast (9)												
Scottsburg	81	33	60	-1	0.88	1		26.69	+2.04	83	3613	+224

DFN = Departure From Normal (Using 1961-90 Normals Period).
GDD = Growing Degree Days.
Precipitation (rain or melted snow/ice) in inches.
Precipitation Days = Days with precipitation of 0.01 inch or more.
Air Temperatures in Degrees Fahrenheit.

situation blending would be all right as long as the varieties share that characteristic."

To manage all those demands, Maier says drying and storage systems need some flexibility. "The traditional dump pit center leg system that moves grain to the dryer, then the bin, might not be best," he says. "Instead, products like food-grade corn will perform better using in-bin drying systems and low temperatures." When using a traditional drying system, Maier says storage bins should be set up with higher air flow rates to cool the in-coming hot corn.

To optimize storage facilities, Maier says, "Remember that bigger is not always better. A lot of people are changing their storage systems, but don't forget that old systems with small bins make sense. Maybe rather than sell them, consider moving them and using them to cover segregation needs. But before making any changes, study the system you have, then consider what you are really willing to do in terms of expenses and modification of the post-harvest system. And never forget that 20 minutes in a drying system can cost you the premium. Work closely with the contractors and know about any quality requirements that are affected by drying and storage."

Dale McDonald, Rooster News Network -- Friday, September 28, 2001.

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